The Rock-a-Chaw

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An experience in Klagetoh, Arizona

By Matt Heyer

The Brother's of the Sacred here have many missions, in many countries around the world. I had the opportunity to venture to one of these missions, in Klagetoh, Arizona over the Christmas Holidays. This particular mission is named St. Anne's. It was set up by the Brothers in order to help minister to the people who live around the mission. These people are the Navajo Indians. Brother John Hotsream is the director of the mission and does everything from cooking at the mission, to working with Navajo and helping out any way he can. Klagetoh is located on the Navajo Nation, which is located in parts of Arizona, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, Colorado, and Oklahoma. The Nation is the reservation for the Navajo people, given to them by the U.S. government.

I was interested in going to St. Anne's for the first time, when I heard about it a few years back. I finally decided this year would be a good year to go, mainly because this is my last year here at St. Stanislaus. I asked Brother Charles for some information about the trip so he gave me the mission for the Brothers of the Sacred Heard New Orleans province. I read all the information and made the decision to go on the trip. I returned the forms to Brother Charles and made all the final plans.

We left St. Stanislaus on the morning of January 27th at 6 A.M. We headed for Catholic High in Baton Rouge, to pick up the rest of the people who were going on this trip. From this point on, we had a good bit of traveling to do and this gave all of the people on the trip a chance to get to know each other. It took us about two days to get out there, with Wichita Falls, Texas being the halfway point where we spent the night. We reached Klagetoh the night of January 28th. For those who had not been there before, including myself, we realized that we were in a totally different culture and appreciated the warm welcome we received from Brother John and all the others who help run the mission. Through out the week, we did many different things. It was such a great experience and you really have to actually go and see for yourself. Just some of their houses, building straw-thatched houses (Hogan) and covering them with adobe, and many other projects that involve working right along side the Navajo people. In case you are wondering or you have never heard of adobe, it is a mixture of two types of sand, mud, and water. It is used by the Navajo to cover their Hogans and other buildings. A Hogan is the Navajo traditional way of building a house. It consists of a log type cabin built with six walls making a hexagonal shape. The only door on the structure traditionally faces the east. The floor of the Hogan is usually just dirt and is heated by a wood-burning stove. This is just one of the many differences on the Navajo Nation in culture that seems so different from our homes and way of life. While we were in Klagetoh, New Years Eve was another special experience for us. We took part in a traditional sweat lodge ceremony. This ceremony is a way of prayer for the Navajo people as well as many other North American Indian tribes. A sweat lodge is basically an igloo type structure made out of thatched sticks, by which the sticks are bound together by rope or traditionally leather hide. The structure is only about seven to nine feet in diameter. There is one opening for entrance and exiting of the lodge. Plastic tarp and towels covered the lodge we were in. Traditionally though, it is covered with a buffalo hide. At most, 12 people can be in the lodge at one time and in the session we had there were at least 10 people in there. The sweat lodge is similar to a sauna or spa, because volcanic rocks are heated in an outdoor fire next to the lodge and then brought in and water is poured over them and they are sprinkled with sage as a type of blessing. The temperature rises rapidly and the lodge fills with a lot of steam. Although this sweat lodge thing sound weird, it is not only good for your spiritually, but it is very good for your skin and respiratory system. This is what the whole experience is about. It is somewhat a state of discomfort. The ceremony sounds a bit weird at first, but once you do it, you will find it an awesome experience! I know that this was one of the major highlights of the trip for me and will not be soon forgotten!

On a visit to nearby Conon de Chelly, a few of us are shown here having a great time.

Finally after a week in Klagetoh, we packed all out things and said our goodbyes. It was a somewhat a sad time because we had been there for only a relatively short time, but had experienced so much over this time.

There is so much more that is offered on this trip, I could just go on and on about it. Unfortunately, I can only write so much. If I have sparked some interest about the trip, go ahead and learn about it by speaking with Brother Charles and thing about going to Klagetoh one day. I know you will be glad you make the decision to go.

Editorial

Lighting The Fire: School Spirit at SSC

By Paul Verlander

The intentional creation of school spirit is an important but sometimes nebulous task. While almost all interested parties at St. Stanislaus say that they want school spirit, the meaning of and means to that end are less susceptible to consensus. Like most indistinct outcomes, improved school spirit at St. Stanislaus will occur only when all stakeholder groups (students, parents, faculty and administration) find common philosophical ground upon which to build a set of concrete steps and objectives to which we can all commit.

Too often, school spirit is too narrowly defined □ cheering more at football games, more pep rallies, more free dress days, etc. Just as often, spirit is not defined at all: "We need more spirit" . . . with nothing more added.

We need to define our principles more clearly, and then we need to create concrete, positive steps which we intend to take to bring those principles to fruition.

School spirit, properly defined, should encompass every aspect of school life. Spirit should be as evident in the commitment of teacher and student to engaging class experiences as it is in the decibel level at a football game. Spirit is damaged more by a negative comment from teacher to student or from one student to another than it is by sitting on our hands at pep rallies (though that doesn't help either).

As a first step, we all need to see that improving school spirit is an all day, every day job.

In deciding how we go about doing the job, however, we need to be mindful of the fact that we all bear different responsibilities and have different perspectives on the task at hand. Administrators and faculty must be concerned with insuring that serious learning and student safety and responsibility are maintained at all times; but they must temper those goals with the understanding that students require and benefit from regular outlets for unstructured energy and enthusiasm.

Students must demonstrate that they can have fun and get rowdy, in proper contexts, and then successfully make the transition back to serious school work when the time comes. In short, we need to communicate our needs and feelings to each other, and we need to accommodate each other's needs and feelings in our choices and behavior. This communication and accommodation will build trust, and trust will lead to the mutual respect and good feeling out of which real school spirit comes.

We have made a good beginning this year. The creation of the first annual student leadership conference shows the commitment of the faculty and administration to progress, and the large number of students who attended that conference on a Saturday morning shows that students are ready to give of themselves to make things happen. Now we need to build on that start and begin to make it concrete. To that end, I propose that we create a joint faculty-student task force on spirit, which will serve as a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas, and for creation of recommendations for change, where needed. As a gesture of my commitment to this process, I will agree to serve on such a task force; and I challenge the student leaders to step up to the plate and make a similar personal investment in the process of change.

We have the tools for action at hand, and I believe that we have the collective will and desire to change for the better. Let's make it happen now, here, in this place. Go Rocks!

We at SSC have a problem

By James Fulford

We at SSC have a problem. No, it's not something that is crucial to the future education of the students here, and no, it's not some lack of religious participation. It's far more simple than that.

SSC as a whole does not have spirit, school spirit to be exact. The pep rally we had before the football game against Bay High was, at best, horrible. At worst it was a complete and utter waste of time and energy. Only a few people participated in the events the way that the pep rally was supposed to be. People now wonder, why doesn't SSC have school spirit?

The main problem lies in the student body to show school spirit, they need to produce ideas and send them to the administration. Now, the student body just can't demand and demand and expect results. Nor can we just allow the administration to produce ideas because they aren't in the students' shoes. The student council won't be able to really do anything since their power is really just to plan events and not make school policy.

Then people ask what the solution is? The solution won't be easy or simple. It will involve close cooperation between students and the administration to get to an agreement that increases school spirit through making the students feel better about their school. That is how I believe school spirit will increase, but I strongly doubt it will happen because there will be friction between the student body and administration on many issues. Hopefully, a few cool-headed people will get together and works something out that will improve school spirit and keep both sides happy.

The Rock-a-Chaw

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Features

The newbies

by Jared Howze

Mrs. Ann Tucker is the new eighth-grade science, anatomy, and physiology teacher at St. Stanislaus. One of the reasons she wanted to teach here is because of the Christian value it teaches and she loves it here.

She taught at Charity School of Nursing and at Auburn University in Alabama. This is her ninth year teaching. One reason she wanted to be a teacher is: "I love learning and I love it when a student loves to learn." She also like being around a people a lot.

Mrs. Tucker went to Dominican High School in New Orleans. She liked most of her teachers in school. She played for the Varsity softball team, and was a cheerleader. Her hobbies are swimming, rollerblading, and fishing. She loves teaching things in the science field, but she's not too fond of math.

Mrs. Tucker was born and raised in New Orleans. She received her teacher's degree at Charity School of Nursing and is a Registered Nurse. Her bachelor's degree is from Loyola and she has a Masters of Science and Nursing from L.S.U. Medical Center She plans to stay at Stanislaus for a long time.

Mrs. Tucker's husband graduated form St. Stanislaus in 1976. She has six children, and she ha lived here for seven years.

An interesting fact is that her father is the announcer for the New Orleans Saints and just a few weeks ago she had dinner with Joe Horn.

Four students chosen for Honors Band

St. Stanislaus junior Scott Hillanbrand, sophomore Michael Enloe, eighth grader Clayton Tate, and eighth grader Tommy Wallace were selected to the Gulf Coast Band Directors Association Honor Band. The selection is done by audition. Special attention is given to rudimental schools, performance of prepared music, and sight-reading. The students competed against other middle and high school students across the Gulf Coast. They will perform with other Honor Band members during the Gulf Coast Band Directors Association convention.

Pictured below are junior Scott Hillanbrand and sophomore Michael Enloe who were selected to the Gulf Coast Band Directors Association Honor Band.

Senior selected to be STAR Student

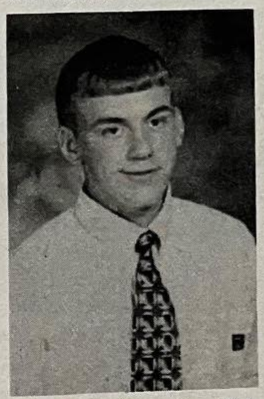
Bobby Morell, St. Stanislaus senior, has been named as a STAR Student for the 2001-2002 school year by the Mississippi Economic Council's M.B. Swayze Educational Foundation, sponsor of the STAR program, according to Brother Ronald Hingle, SC, Principal.

Bobby Morell will be honored during the 12th annual Education Celebration, April 26, 2002, at Mississippi College in Clinton. This prestigious event is co-sponsored by Entergy Mississippi.

Each STAR Student is asked to designate a STAR teacher, the classroom teacher who has made the greatest contribution to the student's scholastic achievement.

Mr. Tom Ackerman was designated by Bobby Morell as his STAR teacher. Mr. Ackerman has been teaching for the past 29 years, and he currently teaches Spanish at St. Stanislaus College. He is also the newspaper moderator.

Bobby Morell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Aldo Morell of Gulfport, Mississippi. He is a member of the National



Honor Society, the Quiz Bowl Team, and FIRST Robotics Competition Team. He is also a National Merit Finalist. He plans to attend MIT and major in Engineering.

STAR Students are selected on the basis of academic excellence. Both ACT scores and high school class averages are compared to determine the school's STAR Student, explained Peggy Howard of Jackson, chief operating officer of the Swayze Foundation. "The STAR program encourages and promotes academic achievement among Mississippi's high school seniors," she said.

Nearly 500 STAR Students and STAR Teachers will receive recognition from Mississippi Economic Council's Swayze Foundation at the celebration. The top 20 STAR students and their STAR Teachers will be presented scholarships or awards provided by the Kelly Gene Cook, Sr., Charitable Foundation. One of the top 20 STAR Students will be chosen as the Mississippi Star Student for 2002 and will receive a $24,000 Cook Foundation scholarship.

Additional local support for the STAR program is provided by Mississippi Economic Council members in communities across the state.

Changes in store for Camp Stanislaus

Camp Stanislaus, the summer recreational program at SSC, will take on a completely new look beginning in the summer of 2002.

According to Mr. Mike Reso, the new camp director, Camp Stanislaus will "provide campers with more choices for activities, and more opportunities for families who are looking for a summer camp."

Among the most notable changes, Camp Stanislaus will accept "Day Campers" for the first time, and the camp will be divided into two shorter 3-week sessions.

Campers will be able to attend both sessions if they choose, for a combined sic-week camp.

"This will make it easier for families to work around summer vacations and other summer activities," Mr. Reso said.

The academic program of the past will be replaced with an elective activity that will include Basketball I & II, Weightlifting and Conditioning, Math I & II, Computers, Art, Creative Writing, Earth Science, Silent Reading, Scuba Diving Certification, and Drivers Education.

For three weeks, the campers will attend the same activity for two hours a day. "This gives more opportunity to the campers to pick their individual activity based on their personal preference," Mr. Reso said.

And he added, "We are very excited about the future of Camp Stanislaus. All of the input and guidance I have received form the Brothers and counselors have been invaluable. Their hard work and ideas make it easier for me to implement these improvements.

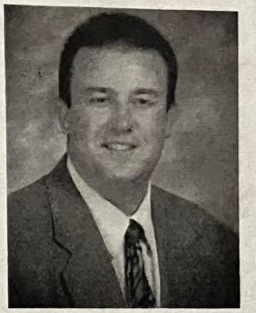
For information about attending Camp Stanislaus contact Mrs. Sharyn Kenson at 228-467-9057, ext. 284.

If you are interested in working as a counselor at camp, contact Mr. Reso in the Finance Office.

Sports

SSC names new head football coach

Mr. Kenneth Chester "Casey" Wittman, Jr. has been named SSC Head Football coach, according to Brother Ronald Hingle, S.C., Principal. He replaces Mr. Dave Kenson who has held that position for the past five years.



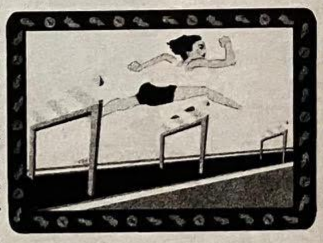
Mr. Wittman comes to SSC from Pass Christian High School where he served as offensive Coordinator, Head Junior Varsity Football Coach, Power lifting Coach, and Teach of Business and Physical Education for the past two years.

According to Mr. Wittman, "I am very thankful and excited about the opportunity that the St. Stanislaus College family has given me. This is truly a dream come true for myself, as well as my family. The football program will help the Brothers of the Sacred Heard in their mission at St. Stanislaus College which is to develop its young people spiritually, academically, athletically, and socially to become "Men of Character, and leaders in today's world. Our first priorities are to make all the kids in the program stronger both mentally and physically. It is also critical that we get the Alumni and friends of St. Stanislaus College back behind our program. There is no limit to what we can accomplish at St. Stanislaus College if we can all work together."

Mr. Wittman is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth C. Wittman, Sr. of Pass Christian. Mr. Wittman comes from a long line of St. Stanislaus College graduates, his father in 1957, and his brothers Kerry in 1992, and Kyle in 1995.

Track captures 2nd place

On Friday, April 19, the SSC track and field team scored 138 points at the Division 8□ 4A meet to capture second place. Fifteen members of the team qualified to move on to the regional meet by finishing in the top four places in an event. First place finishes for the Rock-a-Chaws included the 4x400 meter relay team of Brent Acker, Allen Leone, Logan Walker, Brian Butler. Cheick Sanankoua also placed first in the 200 meter dash. Sophomore Kyle Lewis led the team in points, with second place finishes in the 3200, 1600, and the 800 meter events.



Brent Acker placed second in the 400 meter dash. In field events, SSC's Nick Cotter took second in the pole vault, Nick Weinmann was second in the discus, and Frederick Mallini placed second in shot-put.

Pictured below is Allen Leone running the 4x400 meter relay during the track competition.

Doty selected for All American Soccer Team

St. Stanislaus junior Peter Doty was selected to the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) national High School All-American Team. These High School Soccer All-Americans represent 38 different states and 134 different high schools in the United States. These players are nominated by high school soccer coaches throughout the country. Once nominated, these players must meet the National Soccer Committee's standards of performance and achievement both on and off the playing field during a single season. The All-American Teams honor these respective players as those who have performed and excelled at their respective positions in an outstanding manner while representing their respective high schools.

Salomon Kidane, National Director of Coaching for the USSSA, said "these players have a strong commitment to the game of soccer as well as their personal fitness and set a sportsmanlike example for others to follow. They distinguish themselves as a player for their respective high schools."

Congratulations to the SSC golf team who finished third at the Division 8 4-A Tournament at Mississippi National Golf Club Thursday. With a team score of 344, the Rock-a-Chaws finished just 9 off from the d'Iberville Warriors and Pass Christian Pirates, who tied for first with team scores of 335. Sophomore T.J. Koger let the Rocks with a 79

Congratulations to the SSC/OLA Tennis team who finished first at the 4A district tournament at d'Iberville. The team led the tournament with a score of 9 and had first place victories in boys singles led by Ernesto Zarate, boys doubles which consisted of seniors Billy Flowers and Curry Gambel, and girls doubles who was led by OLA's Rachel Cranford and Christine Bratton. The team will compete in the state tournament in Jackson on April 29-30.